

TITLE 17: CONSERVATION
CHAPTER 1: DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCHAPTER b: FISH AND WILDLIFE

PART 970
HOUND RUNNING AREAS

Section

970.10	Definitions
970.20	Hound Running Area Permits and Fees
970.30	Hound Running Area Records
970.40	Hound Running Area Regulations
970.50	Marking of Animals
970.60	Sources of Captive-Reared and Wild Animals
970.70	Temporary Holding Facilities – Minimum Standards
970.80	Disposition of Animals
970.90	Penalties

AUTHORITY: Implementing and authorized by Sections 1.2, 2.30, 2.33, 2.36, 3.5, 3.25, 3.26, 3.33 and 3.35 of the Wildlife Code [520 ILCS 5/1.2, 2.30, 2.33, 2.36, 3.5, 3.25, 3.26, 3.33 and 3.35] and Section 1 of the Dangerous Animals Act [720 ILCS 585/1].

SOURCE: Adopted at 36 Ill. Reg. 5552, effective April 1, 2012; amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____.

Section 970.20 Hound Running Area Permits and Fees

- a) Hound Running Area Permits are available from the Department upon completion of an application for the permit, payment of the permit fee and approval of the ~~Hound Running Area~~ ~~hound-running-area~~ by the Department. Permit applications are available on the Department's website at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov> ~~http://dnr.state.il.us~~ or by contacting the Department at:

Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Office of Land Management
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield IL 62702-1271

- b) The Department will issue Hound Running Area Permits for coyote and fox areas, for rabbit areas, for raccoon areas and for certain combinations of those animals.

- c) Applicants for Hound Running Area Permits must possess a Fur-bearing Mammal Breeders Permit for possession of coyotes, foxes and/or raccoons and a Class B Commercial Game Breeders Permit for possession of rabbits.
- d) Hound Running Area Permits are renewable annually and expire on March 31 of each year. The annual fee for each Hound Running Area Permit is \$250.
- e) Plans for modifications to established Hound Running Areas ~~hound running areas~~ must be approved by the Department prior to construction. Upon completion, modified Hound Running Areas must be approved by the Department prior to any release of animals or hounds.
- f) Applicants shall provide a list of licensed trappers and Commercial Game Breeder Permit holders from whom animals will be obtained in accordance with Section 970.60. Hound Running Area ~~running area~~ operators shall be limited to 6 licensed trappers and 6 Commercial Game Breeder Permit holders from whom they may obtain animals. The list shall only be subject to modification during the month of the annual renewal date and during September 1-14 annually while ~~of~~ the Hound Running Area Permit is active.

(Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 970.40 Hound Running Area Regulations

- a) Animal densities, running periods and animal removal from dog-proof escape areas:
 - 1) Coyote and fox hound running areas shall contain not less than 2 animals and shall not contain more than 4 animals per each full 20 acres.
 - 2) Raccoon hound running areas shall contain not less than 2 nor more than 3 animals per each full 5 acres.
 - 3) Rabbit hound running areas shall contain 2 animals per each full acre.
 - 4) The running period for coyote, fox and raccoon hound running areas shall not be longer than 16 consecutive hours within a 24-hour period.
 - 5) The running period for rabbit hound running areas shall be sunrise to sunset.
 - 6) Hounds shall not be released for 14 consecutive days after an animal has been added to a hound running area.

- 86
87 7) It shall be unlawful to shake out, relocate, dislodge, move or extract an
88 animal from a place of refuge while hounds are present within a hound
89 running area.
90

91 b) Hounds

- 92
93 1) Not more than 3 hounds per animal shall be released into a hound running
94 area during a running period.
95
96 2) Hounds less than 7 months of age shall not be released in coyote, fox or
97 raccoon hound running areas.
98

99 c) Signs:

- 100
101 1) Signs purchased from the Department shall be conspicuously posted on
102 the perimeter fence of hound running areas at intervals of 500 feet or less
103 with at least one sign on each side of the hound running area.
104
105 2) The price for signs shall be set by the Department. The price shall be the
106 cost of the sign procured by the Department plus the cost to ship the signs
107 to Hound Running Area Permit holders.
108
109 3) Signs are available by calling 217/785-3423 or by writing to:

110
111 Illinois Department of Natural Resources
112 License Consignment/Permits,
113 PO Box 19458
114 Springfield IL 62794-9458
115

116 d) Hound running areas shall meet the following requirements:

- 117
118 1) Coyote and fox hound running areas shall have an area of not less than
119 160 contiguous acres with a dog-proof escape area in each 20 acre tract.
120
121 2) Coyote and fox hound running areas for inexperienced hounds one year or
122 less in age shall have an area of 10-80 contiguous acres with 2 dog-proof
123 escape areas for tracts of 40 acres or less and an additional dog-proof
124 escape area for each additional 20 acre tract or partial tract.
125
126 3) Raccoon hound running areas shall have an area of not less than 20
127 contiguous acres with a dog-proof escape area in each 5 acre tract.
128

- 4) Rabbit hound running areas shall have an area of not less than 5 contiguous acres with a dog-proof escape area in each 2.5 acre tract.
 - 5) Dog proof escape areas must be approved by the Department, appropriate for the species of animal pursued, available for use by pursued animals when hounds are present, and distributed evenly in hound running areas.
- e) Perimeter fences shall completely enclose the hound running area, shall have rounded corners designed to prevent animals from being trapped in corners by hounds, and shall be of sufficient design and strength to prevent any released animal from escaping or any wild free ranging animal from entering the hound running area.
- f) Perimeter fences for coyote, fox and raccoon hound running areas shall meet the following requirements:
- 1) Height – at least ~~5~~6 feet.
 - 2) At the top of the perimeter fence, a minimum of 12 inches of additional fence shall be bent inward at a 90 degree angle.
 - 3) At the bottom of the perimeter fence, a minimum of 12 inches of additional fence shall be bent inward at a 90 degree angle and secured to the ground, or the additional 12 inches of fence at the bottom of the perimeter fence may be buried with no bend.
 - 4) Electric wires with sufficient current to contain coyotes, foxes and raccoons and deter hounds shall be placed on and along the perimeter of hound running areas as follows:
 - A) Coyote, fox and raccoon hound running areas – on the perimeter fence on electric fence standoffs between ~~30~~40 and 46 inches from the ground.
 - B) Coyote and fox hound running areas – one foot inside and 8 inches to one foot high along the perimeter fence.
 - C) Coyote and fox hound running areas – 3 to 4 feet inside and 18 inches to 2 feet high along the perimeter fence.
 - 5) Perimeter fences and electric wires shall be maintained and shall be clear of debris and vegetation.

- 172 g) Perimeter fences for rabbit hound running areas shall meet the following
173 requirements:
174
 - 175 1) Height – at least 4 feet.
176
 - 177 2) At the bottom of the perimeter fence, a minimum of 12 inches of
178 additional fence shall be bent outward at a 90 degree angle and secured to
179 the ground or the additional 12 inches of fence at the bottom of the
180 perimeter fence may be buried with no bend.
181
 - 182 3) Perimeter fences shall be maintained and shall be clear of debris and
183 vegetation.
184
- 185 h) Competitive hound events (i.e., fox hound field trials, beagle or basset hound field
186 trials and hunt tests, or coonhound night hunts, water races, treeing contests and
187 field trials) conducted in hound running areas must comply with the provisions of
188 17 Ill. Adm. Code 930 (Field Trials on Private Lands).
189
- 190 i) The breeds of dogs commonly referred to as sporting dogs may be trained or field
191 trialed in hound running areas. Sporting dog training and field trialing in hound
192 running areas must comply with the provisions of 17 Ill. Adm. Code 960 (Dog
193 Training on Non-Department Owned or -Managed Land) and 17 Ill. Adm. Code
194 930 (Field Trials on Private Lands), respectively.
195
- 196 j) Compliance requirements:
197
 - 198 1) Hound running areas established prior to April 1, 2012 shall be in
199 compliance with the perimeter fencing provisions of this Part not later
200 than 2 years after April 1, 2012.
201
 - 202 2) The Department will waive the acreage requirements for hound running
203 areas in existence prior to April 1, 2012.
204
 - 205 A) A waiver for up to 5 consecutive years will be granted if the
206 Hound Running Area Permit holder requests an acreage waiver in
207 writing.
208
 - 209 B) Upon expiration of the first waiver, an additional waiver for up to
210 5 consecutive years will be granted if the Hound Running Area
211 Permit holder requests an acreage waiver in writing and has made
212 reasonable progress towards meeting the hound running area
213 acreage requirements. Reasonable progress means having added at

214 least 25% of the remaining acreage needed to meet the hound
215 running area acreage requirement.

216
217 C) The Department may place restrictions on the number of hounds
218 loosed at any given time in hound running areas with acreage
219 waivers.

220
221 3) The Hound Running Area Permit holder must be in compliance with all
222 other provisions of this Part when the Hound Running Area Permit is
223 approved.

224
225 (Source: Amended at 47 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)